

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1 1-8. (Canceled)

1 9. (Original) A method of writing data comprising the steps of:  
2 receiving a data block for storage within a stripe of erasure coded data,  
3 the stripe comprising stripe blocks;  
4 sending a query message to each of a plurality of storage devices upon  
5 which the stripe of erasure coded data is stored;  
6 receiving a query reply message from each of at least a first quorum of  
7 the storage devices;  
8 sending a modify message to each of the storage devices; and  
9 receiving a write reply message from each of at least a second quorum  
10 of the storage devices, the first and second quorums each meeting a  
11 quorum condition of a number such that any two selections of the number  
12 of the stripe blocks intersect in a minimum number of the stripe blocks  
13 needed to decode the stripe.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the stripe blocks comprise a first  
2 number of data blocks and a second number of parity blocks.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the query message sent to  
2 the storage device upon which the data block is to be stored includes an identifier of  
3 the stripe of erasure coded data~~indicator~~.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the query messages include a  
2 timestamp indicating a current time.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the reply messages of the first  
2 quorum each indicate that the timestamp is later than a pending write timestamp.

- 1 14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the reply messages of the first  
2 quorum each indicate that the timestamp is later than a validation timestamp for a  
3 previous version of the data block.
- 1 15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the query reply message from the  
2 storage device upon which the data block is to be stored includes the validation  
3 timestamp and the previous version of the data block.
- 1 16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein each of the modify messages include  
2 the timestamp and the validation timestamp.
- 1 17. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the modify message sent to the  
2 storage device upon which the data block is to be stored includes the data block.
- 1 18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the modify messages sent to the  
2 storage devices which hold parity blocks include the previous version of the data  
3 block and the data block.
- 1 19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the write reply messages from the  
2 second quorum indicate that the validation timestamp equals a maximum timestamp  
3 for the stripe block stored on the storage device.
- 1 20. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the write reply messages from the  
2 second quorum indicate that the timestamp is no earlier than the pending write  
3 timestamp.
- 1 21. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the write reply message from the  
2 storage device which stores the data block indicates that the data block was stored  
3 successfully.
- 1 22. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the modify messages sent to the  
2 storage devices which hold parity blocks include a coded block which represents the  
3 previous version of the data block and the data block.

1 23. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the stripe of erasure coded data was  
2 previously stored using a technique of striping.

1 24. (Canceled)

1 25. (Currently Amended) A method of writing data comprising the steps of:  
2 receiving a particular data block for storage within a stripe of erasure  
3 coded data, the stripe comprising stripe blocks which comprise a first  
4 number of data blocks and a second number of parity blocks;  
5 sending a query message including a timestamp indicating a current  
6 time to each of a plurality of storage devices upon which the stripe of  
7 erasure coded data is stored, the query message sent to a target storage  
8 device upon which the particular data block is to be stored including an  
9 identifier of the stripe of erasure coded data~~indicator~~;  
10 receiving a query reply message from each of at least a first quorum of  
11 the storage devices indicating that the timestamp is later than a pending  
12 write timestamp and that the timestamp is later than a validation timestamp  
13 for the earlier version of the stripe block, the query reply message from the  
14 target storage device including the validation timestamp and a previous  
15 version of the particular data block;  
16 sending a modify message to each of the storage devices including the  
17 timestamp and the validation timestamp, the modify message sent to the  
18 storage device upon which the block of data is to be stored including the  
19 particular data block, the modify messages sent to the storage devices  
20 which hold the parity blocks including information used to update the  
21 parity blocks; and  
22 receiving a write reply message from each of at least a second quorum  
23 of the storage devices indicating that the validation timestamp equals a  
24 maximum timestamp for the stripe block stored on the storage device, and  
25 that the timestamp is no earlier than the pending write timestamp, the first  
26 and second quorums each meeting a quorum condition of a number such  
27 that any two selections of the number of the stripe blocks intersect in a  
28 minimum number of the stripe blocks needed to decode the stripe.

1 26. (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the information used to update the  
2 parity blocks comprises a coded block which represents the previous version of the  
3 particular data block and the particular data block.

1 27. (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the information used to update the  
2 parity blocks comprises the previous version of the particular data block and the  
3 particular data block.

1 28-34. (Canceled)

1 35. (Original) A computer readable memory comprising computer code for  
2 implementing a method of writing data, the method of writing the data comprising the  
3 steps of:  
4 receiving a data block for storage within a stripe of erasure coded data,  
5 the stripe comprising stripe blocks;  
6 sending a query message to each of a plurality of storage devices upon  
7 which the stripe of erasure coded data is stored;  
8 receiving a query reply message from each of at least a first quorum of  
9 the storage devices;  
10 sending a modify message to each of the storage; and  
11 receiving a write reply message from each of at least a second quorum  
12 of the storage devices, the first and second quorums each meeting a  
13 quorum condition of a number such that any two selections of the number  
14 of the stripe blocks intersect in a minimum number of the stripe blocks  
15 needed to decode the stripe.

1 36. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 35 wherein the stripe blocks  
2 comprise a first number of data blocks and a second number of parity blocks.

1 37. (Currently Amended) The computer readable memory of claim 35 wherein the  
2 query message sent to the storage device upon which the data block is to be stored  
3 includes an identifier of the stripe of erasure coded data ~~indicator~~.

1 38. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 35 wherein the query

2 messages include a timestamp indicating a current time.

1 39. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 38 wherein the reply  
2 messages of the first quorum each indicate that the timestamp is later than a pending  
3 write timestamp.

1 40. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 38 wherein the reply  
2 messages of the first quorum each indicate that the timestamp is later than a validation  
3 timestamp for a previous version of the data block.

1 41. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 40 wherein the query reply  
2 message from the storage device upon which the data block is to be stored includes  
3 the validation timestamp and the previous version of the data block.

1 42. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 41 wherein each of the  
2 modify messages include the timestamp and the validation timestamp.

1 43. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 42 wherein the modify  
2 message sent to the storage device upon which the data block is to be stored includes  
3 the data block.

1 44. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 43 wherein the modify  
2 messages sent to the storage devices which hold parity blocks include the previous  
3 version of the data block and the data block.

1 45. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 44 wherein the write reply  
2 messages from the second quorum indicate that the validation timestamp equals a  
3 maximum timestamp for the stripe block stored on the storage device.

1 46. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 44 wherein the write reply  
2 messages from the second quorum indicate that the timestamp is no earlier than the  
3 pending write timestamp.

1 47. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 44 wherein the write reply

2 message from the storage device which stores the data block indicates that the data  
3 block was stored successfully.

1 48. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 43 wherein the modify  
2 messages sent to the storage devices which hold parity blocks include a coded block  
3 which represents the previous version of the data block and the data block.

1 49. (Original) The computer readable memory of claim 35 wherein the stripe of  
2 erasure coded data was previously stored using a technique of striping.

1 50. (Canceled)